



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/822,064	03/30/2001	David F. Mears	068448.174	1477

29391 7590 12/12/2003

BEUSSE BROWNLEE WOLTER MORA & MAIRE, P. A.
390 NORTH ORANGE AVENUE
SUITE 2500
ORLANDO, FL 32801

EXAMINER

IQBAL, KHAWAR

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2686

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/822,064

Applicant(s)

MEARS ET AL.

Examiner

Khawar Iqbal

Art Unit

2686

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Helm et al (20020067710).

3. Regarding claim 1 Helm et al teaches a communications system for transmitting information signals to a first plurality of receivers upon request, and for transmitting parasitic data to a second plurality of receivers, said communications system comprising (abstract, figs.1-2):

a transmitter for transmitting an information signal to at least one of the first plurality of receivers on an assigned frequency selected from among a plurality of available frequencies, in response to a request to transmit received from a user of said communications system (paragraphs # 0027-0029); and

said transmitter for transmitting parasitic data to at least one of the second plurality of receivers on a heretofore unoccupied frequency selected from among the plurality of available frequencies (paragraphs # 0011), and wherein the parasitic data transmission is interrupted if the selected frequency is required for transmitting an

information signal to one of the first plurality of receivers (paragraphs # 0011, 0032,0033).

Regarding claim 5 Helm et al teaches a trunked radio repeater system including a trunked radio repeater and a plurality of portable radios for communicating bi-directionally with each other via said trunked radio repeater, wherein the trunked radio repeater system further includes plural working channels, said trunked radio repeater system further including a plurality of parasitic receivers operating on a secondary basis to the plurality of portable radios, said trunked radio repeater system comprising (abstract, figs.1-2):

a first controller for receiving a request from one of the plurality of portable radios to transmit an information signal to at least one other of the plurality of portable radios, and in response thereto for assigning a working channel to carry the information signal (paragraphs # 0027-0029); and

a second controller responsive to said first controller for transmitting parasitic data to one or more of the plurality of parasitic receivers on an unoccupied working channel (paragraphs # 0011, 0032,0033).

As to claim 19 it is considered the claim is rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 1.

Regarding claims 2,6 and 14 Helm et al teaches wherein the parasitic data is transmitted in the form of digital data packets (paragraphs # 0016).

Regarding claims 3,7 and 21 Helm et al teaches wherein each of the first plurality of receivers includes a transmitting apparatus, and wherein a user of one of the first

plurality of receivers requests a frequency assignment over which the information signal is transmitted from the requesting user to at least one other of the first plurality of receivers (paragraphs # 0027-0033).

Regarding claims 4,8 Helm et al teaches wherein the users of the first plurality of receivers provide public services (paragraphs # 0014,0017,0022).

Regarding claim 9 Helm et al teaches wherein a signal is transmitted from the trunked radio repeater to at least one of the plurality of parasitic receivers, wherein said signal assigns a working channel on which the parasitic receiver can transmit to the trunked radio repeater (paragraphs # 0011,0027-0029).

Regarding claim 10 Helm et al teaches including an outbound control channel for carrying the signal assigning the working channel assignment (paragraphs # 0016).

Regarding claim 11 Helm et al teaches wherein each working channel includes an inbound frequency and an outbound frequency, and wherein the inbound frequency to be used for transmitting to the trunked radio repeater from one of the plurality of parasitic receivers is the inbound frequency of the working channel on which the parasitic receiver last received parasitic data (paragraphs # 0016,0032-0033).

Regarding claim 12 Helm et al teaches wherein the second controller transmits an outbound frequency assignment signal to at least one of the plurality of parasitic receivers, in response to which the at least one parasitic receiver tunes to the assigned outbound frequency and thereafter receives the parasitic data on the assigned outbound frequency (paragraphs # 0011-0013).

Regarding claims 13,15 Helm et al teaches wherein the parasitic data

includes address information, wherein each one of the plurality of parasitic receivers has an address, wherein the parasitic data is transmitted to all of the plurality of parasitic receivers, but only the parasitic receiver having an address matching the address information in the parasitic data responds to the parasitic data (paragraphs # 0026, 0021).

Regarding claims 16,17,20 Helm et al teaches wherein when the first controller assigns a working channel that is in use transmitting parasitic data, the parasitic data transmission is terminated and the working channel is relinquished for transmitting an information signal (paragraphs # 0011,0032-0033).

Regarding claims 18,22 Helm et al teaches wherein the termination of the parasitic data transmission before completion thereof causes the parasitic data to be stored and transmitted at a later time (paragraphs # 0024,0029).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Helm et al (20020067710), Barnes et al (6374115) and Childress et al (5483670) teach channel assignments for both reception and transmission frequencies are provided.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHAWAR IQBAL whose telephone number is 703-306-3015.

Art Unit: 2686

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **BANKS-HAROLD, MARSHA**, can be reached at 703-305-4379.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

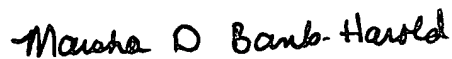
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2684 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Khawar Iqbal



MARSHA D. BANKS-HAROLD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600